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Beware: friendly dog!
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A youth hurls a tear gas cannister back at Israeli troops during a clash in Gaza city yesterday. (Reuter)

Youth killed as Gaza violence flares

By BRADLEY BURSTON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

GAZA — A Palestinian youth was killed and at least 24 others were injured by IDF gunfire yesterday, during some of the most violent rioting in the area in recent months.

Hatem al-Sisi, 17, was shot to death in the Jabalya refugee camp after scores of rock-throwing demonstrators charged an IDF vehicle and hurled two petrol bombs at it. The bombs struck the vehicle on the hood and canvas roof, but the soldiers inside were unharmed.

As the crowd continued to surge towards the truck, the officer in command opened fire. Hatem, shot in the chest, died instantly. Shooting continued sporadically into the afternoon, as troops used tear gas in an attempt to control the hundreds of rioters.

At one point, the small IDF base in the centre of Jabalya was threatened by the crowd, which threw stones and bottles into the compound. By late morning, as the wounded began arriving at Shifa Hospital here, a crowd estimated at 200 gathered near the hospital entrance. In the ensuing unrest, six people were wounded and taken inside for treatment.

Among the wounded were two girls, aged 11 and 13. Most of the injured had received leg wounds, but several seriously wounded demonstrators were flown in IDF helicopters to Tel Hashomer and Soroka Hospitals. A Soroka spokeswoman said last night that one person was critically injured.

During the unrest at Shifa Hospital, Al-Sisi's relatives reportedly burst into a ward and spirited out the youth's body for burial. Some minutes later, an army helicopter dropped tear gas canisters into the hospital compound.

In central Gaza, a commercial strike was declared by merchants,

Reagan, Gorbachev talk about Afghan timetable

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan and Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday discussed a timetable for a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, taking up problems that might test the camaraderie of the "Ron and Mikhail" summit.

The pair turned to sticky regional issues on the second day of their three-day White House meetings after members of Congress told Gorbachev that assurances on Afghanistan would help speed Senate approval of the new U.S.-Soviet arms control treaty.

"The fact that we are ready to withdraw from Afghanistan is something that I have said some time ago," the Soviet leader said in response to a reporter's question as he and Reagan sat down in the Oval Office for more talks. "So what we are going to discuss will be more specific."

Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said after the two-hour meeting: "The [Afghanistan] question was discussed and a timetable was also discussed."

"The talks in general were certainly very productive," said White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater. He told reporters the meeting lasted for two hours, part of which was in private and the rest with aides.

Gerasimov and Fitzwater declined to say whether Reagan liked what he heard from Gorbachev about Afghanistan. But the spokesman said the issue might be addressed publicly when the talks wind up today.

Fitzwater said that the "hopeful sign" from Gorbachev was followed through in the meeting, but he declined to elaborate. He added that the two leaders also discussed the Iran-Iraq war and proposals to reduce their arsenals of strategic weapons. They also discussed a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Asked whether an Arab-Israeli peace conference was discussed yesterday, Fitzwater replied that it had been on the agenda in advance of the summit but was not discussed. "But it may be before the end of the summit," he said.

"We're both searching for solutions [on the Gulf] so that's a move in the right direction," Fitzwater said.

But Gerasimov hinted at disagreement between the two sides, saying the Soviet Union doesn't believe the time has come to adopt an international arms embargo against Iran to force implementation of the UN ceasefire.



U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev smile for the cameras in the White House yesterday during the second day of their summit meeting. (Reuter)

More summit
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Gorbachev hints at easing Soviet emigration policy

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday hinted that the Soviet Union might relax its restrictive emigration policies.

However, Soviet press spokesman Gennady Gerasimov rejected the notion that 400,000 "Soviet citizens of Jewish origin" have already applied for permission to leave. Gerasimov said he did not know the exact figure but insisted that it was much smaller. He noted that about 1,000 Jews were now leaving each month.

The spokesman also predicted that fewer and fewer Jews will want to emigrate as the new Soviet policy of "perestroika" succeeds in reforming Soviet society.

Reagan has privately pressed Gorbachev to ease the plight of Soviet Jewry, but has avoided any specific public reference to the matter since the Soviet leader's arrival in Washington on Monday.

Speaking only in general terms, Reagan has called on the Soviets to improve their overall human rights record. "Let us remember that genuine international confidence and security are inconceivable without open societies with freedom of information, freedom of conscience, the right to publish, and the right to travel," Reagan said.

Gorbachev, during a meeting with congressional leaders yesterday, suggested that the Soviet Union might become more flexible in permitting increased Jewish emigration, especially by reducing the use of "state secrets" as a reason for denying exit visas.

But U.S. officials cautioned against any immediate breakthrough, noting that his remarks were vague.

Senator Alan Cranston (Dem., Calif.) said he had told Gorbachev that "on the matter of immigration, if you can find your way to make some changes, there will be unbelievable responses and consequences."

(Continued on Back Page)

Suspected petrol bomb killer arrested

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ALFEI MENASHE — The security forces have arrested a suspect in the April petrol bomb attack on the Moses family of Alfei Menashe in which a pregnant woman and her son were killed, and three other members of the family and a friend suffered burns.

The 25-year-old suspect, a resident of Kalkiya, is also believed to have carried out a petrol bomb attack in August 6 against a car from the Alfei Menashe settlement, in which Edna Regev suffered burns.

The suspect, who was arrested on Tuesday, yesterday reconstructed the April 11 attack on the Moses family near the Habla intersection between Alfei Menashe and Kalkiya. Handcuffed and surrounded by

UJA: No legal basis for U.S. ban on areas spending

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The ban on spending Jewish Agency funds donated by American Jews in the occupied territories has no basis in American law or in restrictions imposed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Irving Kessler, the director of the United Israel Appeal, confirmed recently.

Groups such as Americans for a Safe Israel, Herut and Young Israel have recently questioned the legal basis for this restriction on Agency spending. The Tebiya Party plans to raise this issue today at the Zionist Congress.

Kessler, whose organization oversees the expenditure of funds raised for the Jewish Agency by the United Jewish Appeal, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the only formal restriction on the expenditure of agency funds in the territories applies to grants obtained through the State Department for the resettlement of refugees. This money amounts to a relatively small part of the several billion dollars spent by the Agency since the Six Day War, when the issue of using Agency money across the Green Line first arose.

Kessler said that the legal charter of the UJA, as revised in 1960, states that the money it transfers to the Jewish Agency is to be used within "Israel." In 1967, he said, "the State Department told the UJA



Avraham Moses and his daughter, Adi, 9, still bearing the scars of the petrol bomb attack which killed Ofra and Tal Moses, hear yesterday that their terrorist assailant had been arrested. (Brumman)

Border Police, he traced the route he allegedly took to the site from his neighbourhood on the outskirts of Kalkiya. He stood in the remains of the orange grove from which he is suspected of throwing the petrol bomb, and described his actions as a policeman took notes. The grove had been uprooted after the attack.

OC Central Command Amram Mitza, who visited the Moses' home, said the suspect is believed to have acted on his own, carrying out several attacks before joining a cell of Nafef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Other suspected members of the cell have also been arrested.

Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron said they also carried out petrol bomb attacks on their own before joining the DFLP.

At Alfei Menashe, Avraham Moses, who lost his wife Ofra and five-year-old son Tal in the petrol bomb attack, said he had mixed feelings about the arrest, communicated to him yesterday morning by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "I feel good that he was caught, but on the other hand I'm sad because I know that he faces a life sentence, at most. That's not enough. A man who murdered, burned, and destroyed a whole family should receive the death penalty. Maybe it will be a deterrent."

Kalkiya Mayor Abdel Rahman Abu-Saieeh condemned the petrol bomb attacks, and said he hoped the arrest of the alleged killer would improve relations with neighbouring Jewish communities and bring Israelis back to shop in his town.

Mitza, who kept in regular contact with Moses about the progress of the investigation, said the alleged killer was tracked down as a result of the intensive work of hundreds of people, members of the security services and soldiers. "Residents of Alfei Menashe can again travel safely," he said. "Today we have paid a debt to the Moses family."

Fighting sexual assaults on children

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

More than two cases of sexual assault against children are reported daily to the welfare authorities, according to experts who have launched a programme to fight the menace.

At least 1,000 incidents involving children under 14 years old are being recorded annually by the Social Affairs Ministry's youth department, and officials say many more cases go unreported.

"It is a very worrying situation and it is time we started dealing with it," said Shifra Krieger, an Education Ministry guidance counsellor, who helped set up an experimental course at a Jerusalem elementary school to teach children and their parents how to cope with the danger.

(Continued on Page Four)

6 days to Hanukka

18,000 yeshiva students won't serve in the IDF this year

'This is not my army and not my country'

BACKGROUND
Asher Wallfish

When Israel's first prime minister, the late David Ben-Gurion, agreed in 1948 to defer army service for up to 400 yeshiva students, he did so to keep the yeshivot alive and to ensure that they did not close for lack of students.

"Asked by political colleagues whether the number of students at yeshivot would increase because of the availability of deferments, Ben-Gurion said he would look into the question. But apparently he never did.

The late Moshe Dayan, while defence minister in 1975, was more generous than Dayan. While he added no further yeshivot to the list, he set an annual quota of 800 entrants to the deferment pool. In fact, in 1975, the first full year Peres served as defence minister, another 881 names of deferred yeshiva students were added. In 1976 the total had grown to 7,846 yeshiva students.

Those who have tried to calculate the total number of students deferred since 1948 have reached many tens of thousands, but their calculations are unscientific.

In 1976, between 2 and 2.5 per cent of all those who registered were deferred, the special sub-committee of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee now studying the issue has found. Ten years later, the figure swelled to almost 5 per cent, and the boost apparently derived from the policies of the Likud governments that came to power in 1977 and 1981.

Before 1977, a yeshiva student requesting deferment of army service

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STATION	MIN.	MAX.	WIND	WEATHER
AMSTERDAM	-7	10	0-20	Cloudy
BIRMINGHAM	-1	10	0-20	Clear
BRUSSELS	-1	10	0-20	Clear
CHICAGO	-3	27	3-27	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-3	27	3-27	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-3	27	3-27	Cloudy
GENEVA	-1	24	0-24	Cloudy
HAMBURG	-1	24	0-24	Cloudy
HONG KONG	18	24	0-24	Clear
JERUSALEM	18	24	0-24	Clear
LONDON	0	22	0-22	Cloudy
MADRID	6	22	0-22	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-10	14	0-14	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-2	26	0-26	Cloudy
OSLO	-2	21	0-21	Clear
PARIS	-2	26	0-26	Clear
RIO DE JANEIRO	19	26	0-26	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	19	26	0-26	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-1	20	0-20	Clear
TOKYO	0	21	0-21	Clear
TORONTO	0	22	0-22	Clear
VIENNA	-2	22	0-22	Clear
ZURICH	-2	22	0-22	Clear

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THE WEATHER

Station	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	73	12-17	18
Golan	76	11-16	17
Nahariya	48	14-20	21
Safed	90	10-13	15
Haifa Port	70	14-22	23
Tiberias	73	14-20	21
Nazareth	70	12-22	23
Afula	70	12-22	23
Shomron	74	13-18	19
Tel Aviv	81	15-21	22
B-G Airport	68	13-21	22
Jericho	61	13-24	25
Gaza	64	15-22	22
Beersheva	61	13-21	21
Eilat	30	12-26	27

Three killed in head-on collision

A man, a woman, and a baby girl were killed and another woman was injured yesterday afternoon when the car they were travelling in collided head-on with a bus on the Beer-sheba-Dimona highway.

The accident occurred at around 3 p.m. The four were trapped in the wreckage of the car, a Fiat 127, and a rescue team had to cut the car in half to pull out the bodies. The injured woman was rushed to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba.

Rabin to sign memorandum of understanding in Washington

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV — Defence Minister Rabin is to leave for a 10-day visit to the U.S., during which he will sign a memorandum of understanding that places Israel-U.S. ties on an equal footing with Washington's relations with its NATO allies.

The memorandum, which is to be signed with Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci on Monday, will loosen some restrictions on American acquisition of Israeli products. It is also expected to increase cooperation in research and development, as well as scientific and engineering exchanges.

It is to replace a memorandum of agreement signed in 1979 between then defence minister Ezer Weizman and U.S. defence secretary Harold Brown, and renewed in 1984. That agreement waived the Buy American Act from some items Israel sought to sell to the U.S.

(The Buy American Act is designed to protect American firms against competition from foreign companies which do not have to abide by U.S. labour laws, and can thus produce more cheaply.)

Over the years the list of items on the Israeli-American agreement expanded, but it still fell short of the wide-ranging U.S. agreement with its NATO allies. The deal with NATO by-passed the Buy American Act, except in specific cases.

The situation was improved last year, when Israel was designated a "non-NATO ally and friend." The new agreement will formally bring the legal procedures in line with those which apply to NATO.

Herzogs to UK

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

President Herzog is to leave today for a six-day "working visit" to England, where he will be a guest of the Jewish community and be received by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Thatcher.

Herzog will be accompanied by his wife Aura and by two Beit Hanassi staffers. It will be his second visit to London since taking office nearly five years ago. The visit will open Israel's 40th independence anniversary celebrations in Britain, and mark the 70th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Herzog is to meet with the queen on Tuesday at Buckingham Palace, and lunch with the premier on the same day. He will also meet with business leaders, heads of Jewish organizations and government dignitaries. A visit to Parliament is scheduled, but he will not address that body. Hundreds of youngsters representing Jewish youth movements in Britain are to meet Herzog at a London assembly.

The entourage is to return home on Wednesday.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

MKs square off in battle over 'Bill of Rights'

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

The future of this country's "Bill of Rights" (Basic Law: Human Rights) hung in the balance last night as the Knesset Law Committee remained paralyzed by disagreement between a right wing-Orthodox alliance and a partnership between the left and the centre over two crucial provisions.

Tel Aviv University Law Faculty Dean Uriel Reichman and other jurist colleagues were on hand to stiffen the resolve of Shinui, the Citizens

Rights Movement, Mapam and the Alignment to fight for a Basic Law: Human Rights which will buttress the rights of minorities and non-Orthodox Jews.

MK Amnon Rubinstein (Shinui), a former dean of the TAU Law Faculty, said last night that if the right wing-religious bloc encouraged by Justice Minister Avraham Shari'ir distorts the basic message of the proposed bill of rights in committee, he will withdraw it before it goes back to the plenum for the final readings.

As the original author of the proposal, Rubinstein has this right. Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement), whose special sub-committee got the proposal into its present form and won a majority for it in the Law Committee of the last Knesset, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the Likud and the religious parties could violate human rights in Israel unhampered if they shaped the proposal the way they wanted.

The centre-left partnership totally objects to its opponents' demand for a clause stipulating that "any legisla-

tion deriving from the fact that the State of Israel is a Jewish state shall not constitute discrimination," and for a clause stating that "this Basic Law shall not detract from the validity of laws which were in effect prior to its enactment."

Aloni told *The Post*: "The Likud, Tehiya and the Orthodox want to ensure that non-Jews will be turned down by the High Court if they plead discrimination. The Orthodox want to ensure that secular Israelis don't have a leg to stand on in matters of personal status such as mar-

riage and divorce. The sort of Basic Law they seek would make Israel a worse place for democracy than South Africa."

Reichman, who recently published a proposed constitution for Israel, told *The Post* that the country's unique character, which entitled it to enact legislation like the Law of Return, should be reflected in the Basic Law: Human Rights in a declarative form.

Reichman was trying, with some cooperation from committee chairman Eli Kulas (Likud-Liberals), to

reach a compromise between the conflicting positions.

Present at yesterday's two marathon sessions was former Liberal MK Hans Klinghofer, emeritus professor of constitutional law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, whom Kulas still regards with immense awe. Kulas told *The Post*: "Klinghofer was my teacher and remains my mentor. He stands behind the committee version of the proposal which the Likud, Tehiya and the religious parties criticize. I do not see how I can go against him."



Palestinian journalist Radwan Abu Ayyash, accused of being a senior Fatah activist. (Reuters)

Palestinian editor ordered jailed

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The head of the Arab Journalists' Association in the territories and managing editor of *Al-Awdah* magazine, Radwan Abu Ayyash, has been put in administrative detention for six months. He was arrested late Tuesday night at his Ramallah home and is being held at the central West Bank prison at Jneid.

The Nabulus military court is to hold a hearing today to confirm the order. Abu Ayyash will be represented by attorney Amnon Zichroni.

Military sources said Abu Ayyash, 37, is a senior Fatah activist in the West Bank and Jerusalem, who held extensive contacts with Fatah activists in the region and

abroad. The sources said his activities included "receiving instructions and funds to promote the organization's aims and disrupt public order."

Abu Ayyash, whose magazine is published by the Palestine Press Service (PPS) in East Jerusalem, is an outspoken critic of Israel's policies in the territories. As a leading PLO supporter in the areas, he was invited several times to join Palestinian delegations who met visiting foreign dignitaries. He maintained extensive contacts with both Israeli and foreign journalists.

PPS owner Ibrahim Kara'een said Abu Ayyash's arrest was a surrender to demands by right-wing groups in Israel to crack down on leading pro-PLO figures in the territories.

"Israel has left no more room for someone to express himself in words. It's the end of the dialogue. If they have something against him, let them take him to court," he said.

Kara'een said the International Union of Journalists was planning to intervene on behalf of Abu Ayyash, and he called on Israeli journalists to publicly protest the arrest. He said that approaches had also been made to foreign diplomats, and that the case would be taken up by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Al-Awdah sent a letter yesterday to the Soviet and American leaders meeting in Washington, protesting against the arrest and Israel's "blatant violation of Palestinian human rights" in the territories.



Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee chairman Abba Eban leaves the Jerusalem District Court yesterday after testifying behind closed doors in the trial of Mordechai Vanunu. Eban refused to say anything about his testimony, but Israel Television last night quoted both defence and prosecution lawyers as saying they were 'satisfied' with his testimony. (Jacqueline Arzi/Media)

Shamir again tries to quell storm over remarks on yeshiva student exemptions

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Shamir yesterday continued his "damage control" campaign among the religious politicians, telling them that his remarks on army exemptions for yeshiva students had been aimed at those who "abuse" the system, and not at genuine yeshiva students "who study day and night."

Shas leader Yitzhak Peretz, leading a delegation comprising all the party's Knesset members, told the

prime minister that his remarks blasting the ultra-Orthodox who do not serve in the army had created a storm which he hoped would soon pass. Peretz said that anyone who abuses the exemption given to full-fledged yeshiva students is an "other-Yisrael" (Israel hater).

Shamir said that the abuse of the system by those who do not study in yeshivot provides ammunition for those politicians who "fight religion." "Not even a hair will fall

from the head of a yeshiva student whose studies are his vocation," Shamir said. He said that he would fight attempts to change the status quo with all his might.

Shamir met later with MK Menahem Porush (Agudat Israel) and Avraham Verdiger (Morasha) on the same subject. Porush told Shamir that a yeshiva student's studies would be irretrievably disrupted if he were forced to take a three-year break in order to serve in the army.

MK Porush taken ill in House

By DVORAH GETZLER
and JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Agudat Yisrael's veteran MK Menahem Porush was taken ill yesterday in the plenum, after making an emotional speech on yeshiva student deferments from army service. He was rushed to Bikur Holim Hospital in an intensive care ambulance.

Last night, he was reported in good condition. The doctor who examined him in the emergency room, Prof. Dani Tziyoni, said that the MK had not suffered a heart attack and had undergone tests. It was not certain how long Porush would remain in hospital for observation.

It was only since the Likud's rise to power that the ultra-Orthodox were being portrayed as blackmailers, Porush had thundered in his speech. In contrast, throughout its

(Continued on Back Page)

Peres off to South America

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Foreign Minister Peres leaves tonight for a 10-day trip abroad during which he will visit Brazil and Uruguay.

Peres, who will be accompanied by top Foreign Ministry aides and by businessman Saul Eisenberg and former Foreign Ministry director-general David Kimche, is scheduled to arrive in Brasilia on Monday and meet with President Jose Sarney and other top government officials. Much of the talks will focus on efforts to increase trade between the two countries.

On Tuesday, Peres will travel to Montevideo, where he will meet with Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, who visited Israel last year. Talks between the two will also focus on strengthening commercial ties and on technological cooperation.

Peres will then return to the Brazilian cities of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro for meetings with leaders of the local Jewish communities and the media. Peres is expected to dine in Rio with the legendary soccer star, Pele.

Peres arrives tomorrow in New York, and is scheduled to receive an honorary doctorate at Yeshiva University at a gala dinner which will be addressed by Yehonatan Sadat.

Sirhan Sirhan's father buried with none of his five sons there

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Bishara Sirhan, the father of the man who killed Senator Robert Kennedy, died of a heart attack last Wednesday in the West Bank village of Taibeh, a lonely old man who was known as the village magician.

None of Sirhan's five sons, living in Jordan and the U.S., came to the funeral.

"We waited to bury him for three days. We were waiting for his children. But no one came, so members of the clan buried him," said the Roman Catholic priest, Father Sansour, who was a friend of the deceased.

The U.S. consulate said there had been no request from Sirhan Sirhan to attend the funeral. Sirhan, 43, is serving a life sentence for assassinating Kennedy on June 5, 1968, and his eighth parole request was turned down in 1986.

Bishara Sirhan, who died at the age of 78, was born into a Greek Orthodox family in Taibeh, but he considered himself a Jehovah's Witness in later life, said Father Sansour.

He married a local woman and spent many years in the U.S. before returning seven years ago to his home village, near Ramallah. His wife, Mary, remained in the United States.

"He lived apart," said Sansour. "He was the magician of the village. People would go to him for charms when they were ill or in love. The poor also went to him," said Sansour.

"He used to perform magical acts. He was a bizarre man. But he was a good friend of mine, as a human being."

Sirhan used to visit him and complain about the religious establishment, said Father Sansour. He rarely talked about Sirhan Sirhan. But he sometimes said the priests hadn't helped him enough in attempts to liberate his son.

Sirhan Sirhan has been quoted as saying that he killed Kennedy as a political act because of "the events and aftermath of the 1967 war in the Middle East."

But he recently acknowledged "great sorrow" over the act, which his defence lawyers said was a result of mental illness.

None of the elderly Sirhan's five sons have married.

Father Sansour once asked one of the sons why he didn't marry, and was told that those who knew that they were the brothers of the man who killed Robert Kennedy didn't want to marry them.

Women get one step closer to T.A. religious council

By JONATHAN KARP
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV — City councillors here yesterday began preparing for a tough political fight, after the High Court of Justice approved a measure which would allow women to help choose this city's Ashkenazi chief rabbi.

The agreement gives the city council until December 27 to choose its 10 representatives for the 31-member body which will elect the rabbi. The council has struggled in vain for months to reach an agreement, and if it does not succeed in the next three weeks, the electoral body appointed last July by Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer will stand.

Tel Aviv has been without an Ashkenazi chief rabbi for more than a year. The proposed participation of women in the electoral body has

caused a split between the Likud and the Alignment blocs, with the Labour faction having nominated two women, Haviva Avi-Guy and Lilly Menahem, to serve as electors.

Avi-Guy said that yesterday's High Court decision was important because it recognized the right to choose the chief rabbi in a democratic process.

Meanwhile, the three councillors from the religious bloc are trying to persuade other members to vote against the participation of women.

Mayor Shlomo Lahat (Likud) has said that he supports women serving despite the rabbinate's refusal to endorse a candidate selected by women. But his ultimate position is uncertain, Likud councillors said, and the situation is further complicated by the fact that Lahat is out of the country until next week.

MKs accuse Harish of cowardice in handling of Albin associates

By ANDY COURT

The Progressive List For Peace may appeal to the High Court of Justice against Attorney-General Yosef Harish's decision not to press charges against two Likud MKs suspected of taking bribes from financier Michael Albin, who jumped to his death while being questioned by police in 1985.

In a biting letter to Harish, PLP MKs Mohammed Miani and Matityahu Peled charged that Harish had displayed "public and legal cowardice" by closing the Albin file. They called on him to either change his decision or resign from his job.

But MK Ran Cohen (Citizens Rights Movement), who drew the

police's attention to Albin's activities by filing a complaint, said he would not appeal the decision because "I don't want to damage the institution of the attorney-general any more than he [Harish] has damaged it already."

Likud MKs Micha Reiser and Gideon Gadot and two Israel Television reporters, Nissim Mishal and Yisrael Segal, were suspected of illicit financial dealings and bribetaking.

Harish rejected the opinion of top officials in the State Attorney's Office that he should press charges against Reiser for allegedly taking bribes from Albin, informed sources said this week.

Shomron praises six killed in glider attack

Jerusalem Post Reporter

IDF Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron has described the six men who fell in the recent glider attack near Kiryat Shmona as "excellent soldiers."

Shomron, speaking last night on Israel Television, said that they had fallen in the line of duty. He denied quotes attributed to him that the

soldiers killed were of inferior quality.

"It was a harsh blow to us, a tragedy," Shomron said.

The CGS also said that Syria, Egypt and Iraq are "involved in the development of medium-range missiles." In addition, he charged that Syria is allowing terrorists to train in territory under its control.

THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

On the tenth anniversary of the death of

MEYER W. WEISGAL

there will be a memorial programme on Thursday, December 17, 1987, at 5 p.m. at the Wix Auditorium on campus,

with the participation of members of the Cameri Theatre

In the Chair: Prof. David Sammel

Guest Speaker: Minister Without Portfolio Ezer Weizman

Graveside ceremony, on campus, at 4 p.m.

On the thirtieth day after the passing of our beloved husband, father, and grandfather

DAVID MEIRY ז"ל

a memorial meeting and unveiling of the tombstone will be held on Sunday, December 13, 1987 (22 Kislev 5748) at 9 a.m. at Kfar Samir Cemetery, Haifa.

We shall meet at the main entrance.

The bereaved family:

Wife: Esther Meiry
Daughter: Naomi Linenberg and husband
Son: Yoram Meiry and wife
Brother: Meir Meiry, wife and sons and grandchildren

BEZEQ, The Israel Telecommunication Corp. Ltd. Marketing and Customer Services expresses deepest sympathy to

DAVID LEVINE on the passing of his

Mother

and conveys sincere condolences to all the family.

Protest over demolition of tent mosque

By BRADLEY BURSTON / Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAHAT — Over the protests of residents of this Beduin Neguv township, a large force of police and Israel Lands Administration personnel yesterday carried out a demolition order on a tent converted for use as a mosque.

According to the Interior Ministry's southern district representative, Shalom Danino, the mosque constituted a "badon," a shelter more substantial than a tent, and was therefore subject to construction licensing regulations.

But residents countered yesterday that the tent had been used for the past two years as a chicken house, and the authorities had said nothing about a licence until residents cleaned it and began to pray there three weeks ago.

Noting that an unlicensed permanent sheepshed adjacent to the tent was left untouched by I.L.A. officials, worshippers yesterday charged that the demolition constituted a violation of religious freedom and vowed to found a new mosque in the near future.

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for the death of her

Mother

Evidence suggests he was 'one of the best informed officers in the Balkans'

Austria increasingly embarrassed by Waldheim

By SUE MASTERMAN
VIENNA — The thunderclouds are gathering over the head of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, not welcome in the United States since March when he was put on the "watch list" of unwanted visitors with Nazi associations.

The committee of six historians, commissioned by the Austrian government at Waldheim's instigation to comb through the records of his Balkan wartime career in the Nazi army, is due to complete its work in January.

That final report is unlikely to bring the proof that Waldheim was directly involved in war crimes — that he actually held the gun which shot partisan or British or Italian prisoners of war, or that he personally herded Greek Jews into the goods wagons ready for transport to the concentration camps.

What it will prove — and this is becoming all the more obvious from leak to leak — is that he was one of the best informed officers in the Balkans. It was, after all, his job to read through and condense the reports coming to his headquarters from throughout the front, to

initial them and to pass them on, in full or in condensed form, to his superiors.

And yet Waldheim, whose own White Book in self-defence was officially published recently in Austria, just in time for the Christmas shopping spree, continues to deny that he knew anything about the deportation of the Jewish population from the Greek islands, or that he was involved in any way in the interrogation of prisoners, or that he even knew about the instructions to send the Allied prisoners of war, after questioning, to the SS for Sonderbehandlung — for which read execution.

When the committee of historians was appointed most people, including the Austrian conservative party which kindly provided them with two secretaries who could drop copies of their work off at party headquarters, were convinced that this would be just another whitewash job. Now they have come to the uncomfortable conclusion that it will not.

On the contrary, the results will be damning for the president. They do not brand him as a war criminal. They will show him instead to be

a liar, a ruthless opportunist, and a coward in comparison with many of his fellow officers.

The committee has, in a dignified manner, rebelled against attempts by the conservative party, seeing which way the wind was blowing, to suddenly limit their mandate. The committee's job is indeed to investigate whether Kurt Waldheim was guilty of war crimes or crimes against humanity. The conservatives argue that it is not their job to establish how much he knew.

A deal is now being forged between the socialists and more enlightened conservatives, which would ensure that the conservatives keep the presidency if and when Waldheim is forced to resign. The deal is that there will be no new presidential election, and that another conservative will be nominated to take Waldheim's place for the rest of the six-year term.

With every day that passes, with every attack in the foreign press, and every reminder by foreign governments that Waldheim is not welcome in their country, and with every brick he drops on the foreign visits he makes, such as describing Pakistan's dictator as "a great

statesman," it becomes more imperative for Austria to rid itself of Waldheim.

Next year is the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss, when Hitler annexed Austria and, in effect, wiped it off the map. The Austrians are now extremely conscious that their image is that of the thousands who stood in the centre of Vienna on that day and waved their little swastika flags while Hitler stood on the balcony of the old Habsburg palace.

They cannot right that image in an atmosphere where the president himself is under suspicion of at least having collaborated in war crimes, and where the continuing attacks on him bring an equally continuous anti-Semitic backlash.

Waldheim has got to go, and the historian's report would be the right moment to open the door for him. But Waldheim has stated unequivocally that he will under no circumstances resign. And in Austria there is no way, under the constitution, in which a president who has not been convicted of a serious crime can be removed from office.

(London Observer Service)

UN General Assembly condemns Israel in 7 resolutions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday condemned Israel for occupying, annexing and settling Arab territory and for the way it treats Palestinians. The series of seven resolutions passed by overwhelming margins, with only Israel or Israel and the U.S. voting against them.

Israeli spokesman Eyal Arad said the "annual anti-Israeli resolutions"

have caused the UN to lose all credibility. "When such resolutions are brought to the table, hypocrisy has its day," he said.

One resolution condemns Israel for occupying territory captured in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, including Jerusalem. It accuses Israel of illegally annexing territory, destroying Arab homes and torturing detainees.

The measure passed with 112 affirmative votes, 38 abstentions and only Israel, the U.S. and Costa Rica voting "No." Other measures deplored Israel's detention of hundreds of Palestinians and its treatment of Palestinian students and faculty in the occupied territories.

Israeli authorities frequently close schools during outbreaks of anti-Israeli violence in the occupied territories.

Only the U.S. and Israel voted against these resolutions. Yet another resolution condemns Israel for settling occupied territory. It passed with 143 votes in favour, one (Israel's) against and eight nations abstaining — including the U.S.

The general tone and thrust of the resolutions and the voting patterns followed that of past years.

Lima soccer team's plane dives into sea

LIMA, Peru (AP) — A twin-engine navy plane carrying a Lima soccer team and other passengers crashed into the Pacific Ocean near this coastal capital. All but one of the 43 people on board were believed killed, a Navy spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said five bodies and one survivor were found in the plane wreckage in the ocean 10 kms. north of Lima and 5 kms. off the coast.

The Navy official said the plane, which was declared missing on Tuesday night, was unable to land because its landing gear would not lower. He said he did not have more details.

Navy officials said the Fokker plane carried six crew members, 28 members of the league-leading soccer club Alianza Lima, eight cheerleaders and the team's coach, Marcos Calderon.

The survivor was a crew member, said the Navy spokesman. In another air accident yesterday, a U.S. transport plane with 11 people aboard crashed in Antarctica as it tried to land. Two people were killed and one was seriously injured, the U.S. Navy announced in Washington.

The plane crashed about 1,380 km. northeast of the U.S. McMurdo station on McMurdo Sound, the main U.S. base in Antarctica.

Pakistani soldiers say good-bye to prosperity and Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) — Saudi Arabia has sent thousands of Pakistani soldiers back home, ending an economic bonanza that the troops have enjoyed for years. The return was a major development in two decades of Pakistan's military cooperation with Islamic countries, which has earned goodwill and leverage for Islamabad. The Pakistani contingent has been an important element of the Saudi defence forces since the early 1980s, but its future there became clouded by mounting tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran, Pakistan's neighbour, over the Gulf war.

"A few thousand are still there, and a few thousand have come back," a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman said last week.

An announcement by the official Saudi Press Agency at the same time said the return had come on the expiry of an agreement between the

two sides and the completion of the task of the troops in military and technical training. Saudi Arabia backs Iraq in the Gulf war. But Pakistan has kept a neutral posture and is one of the nine members of an Islamic peace committee that has tried unsuccessfully since 1981 to bring the warring parties to the conference table.

For the Pakistani troops, the stay in Saudi Arabia for training, advisory or security roles also meant high salaries — several times more than received at home. The benefit was spread out, as soldiers completing the usual three-year terms were replaced by others.

But those returning now will not be replaced, according to the officials of the two countries. Pakistani officials refuse to say exactly how many troops are returning or how many were in Saudi Arabia before the return.



Communists protest beneath the hammer and sickle in New Delhi yesterday, demanding the ouster of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on corruption charges. Police said about 50,000 marched in the demonstration. (AFP)

Reichmans to sue Canadian magazine for background story on their family

By NOMI MORRIS

Special to the Jerusalem Post
TORONTO — The Reichmanns, believed to be among the wealthiest families in the world, intend to sue a Toronto magazine over a feature article that documents their rise to riches and their personal family history.

Brothers Paul, Ralph and Albert Reichmann, owners of Olympia and York Developments, and their mother Renee have filed a notice of intention to sue *Toronto Life* magazine under the provincial Libel and Slander Act.

The article, taking up around 50 pages of the November issue of the city's most prominent monthly, created a stir in the business and Jewish communities. Called "The Mysterious Reichmanns: The Untold Story," it purports to tell "how Toronto's ultra-Orthodox business gnomes escaped the Holocaust, made a fortune in wartime Tangier, and founded one of the world's pre-eminent financial dynasties."

Writer Elaine Dewar spent over a year tracing the Reichmanns' path from their native Hungary to Vienna, Paris, Tangier, Montreal and finally Toronto in 1956. The article contains:

- information suggesting that Renee Reichmann risked her life to travel through Nazi-occupied Europe in 1942, and that she arranged the rescue of 1,200 Hungarian Jews in 1944;
- the unravelling of an elaborate



Edward Reichman, eldest of the Reichmann brothers (Dan Landau)

wartime scheme that implies the Reichmanns were involved in smuggling contraband currency from Tangier to Brazil to facilitate the immigration of Jewish refugees to Brazil;

□ the suggestion that the Reichmanns were involved in getting chocolate into concentration camps to be used by inmates as bribes;

□ a discussion of Toronto's ultra-Orthodox community and its links to Israeli yeshivot — including a suggestion that the Reichmanns are linked to the Satmar sect;

□ suggestions that the Reichmanns recently brought Rabbi Jacob Hezekiah Soffer — formerly of Ner Yisrael Synagogue in Jerusalem's Givat Shaul neighbourhood — to be the new rabbi at the "Beit Shul," their private synagogue in a converted To-

Pretoria hangs seven for gang warfare in prison

PRETORIA (AFP) — Seven murderers who took part in prison gang warfare killings were hanged yesterday in Pretoria, a spokeswoman for South Africa's Justice Department said.

The day before, four black men and three mixed race men had been hanged for murder, the spokeswoman said.

The seven hanged yesterday were all mixed-race members of prison gangs in the Annandale Prison in Cape Province. The number of executions in South Africa this year now stands at 157. Of those hanged, 96 have been black men, 52 mixed race men and nine white men. No women have been hanged this year, the spokeswoman said.

The South African Press Association quoted a prisons department spokesman as saying 263 people remained on death row.

Former Fatah leader gunned down in Shatilla

BEIRUT (Reuters) — An official of a pro-Syrian Palestinian guerrilla group was killed by a gunman in a speeding car outside his home in the refugee camp of Shatilla on the edge of Beirut, a Palestinian spokesman said on Tuesday night.

He said the man, identified as Abu Wae'el, was a member of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front. He was standing outside his home when the gunman shot him in the head before escaping.

The spokesman said Abu Wae'el was a former member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council headed by Abu Nidal.

IN BRIEFS

LUFTHANSA, the West German airline, denied a report yesterday that one of its planes had been hijacked over Turkey. A spokesman for the airline said the pilot of a scheduled Lufthansa flight from Izmir in southern Turkey to Frankfurt had inadvertently given a code to air control authorities used during hijackings, leading officials to believe the plane had been hijacked.

A BOMB seriously injured a senior Bangladesh cabinet minister yesterday, police said. Textiles Minister Sunil Gupta was run to hospital after unidentified assailants threw home-made bombs at his car in front of the Foreign Office in central Dhaka, police said. Hospital sources later said Gupta was out of danger after an operation.

Manila manhunt for coup leader 'Gringo' ends in his capture

MANILA (Reuters) — Troops last night captured Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan in a raid on a suburban house, ending a three-month manhunt for the Philippine rebel who almost seized power in an August coup, the government said.

President Corason Aquino, who had refused to allow the country's most wanted fugitive to dictate surrender terms, said she was "overjoyed" by his capture. "His capture should reassure all peace-loving Filipinos that our country is headed for much better times," Aquino was quoted as saying in a statement read on television and radio by her spokesman.

"He surrendered peacefully," presidential press secretary Teodoro Benigno said.

The military said 39-year-old Honasan and eight other officers were arrested in a raid on a house in an exclusive Manila suburb by about 50 soldiers. No shots were fired.

Honasan launched the most serious threat during Aquino's 21 months in power, masterminding an all-out rebellion in which 53 people died, more than 300 were wounded, and which saw the worst street fighting in the capital since World War II.

Residents in the Valle Verde area on the outskirts of Manila said Honasan rode a powerful motorcycle to the house, which they said was owned by a former top aide to opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile.

Enrile was a close friend of the rebel colonel, who headed his personal security as defence minister for both Aquino and ousted president Ferdinand Marcos.

The capture ended more than three months in which Honasan



Col. Gregorio 'Gringo' Honasan (AFP)

taunted Aquino through a series of clandestine television and press interviews while evading capture. The government put a 12,000 pesos reward on his head — the equivalent of 10 years' salary for a private soldier — but never appeared close to capturing him.

Honasan had boasted of sunning himself on exclusive beaches and eating take-away sushi from expensive Japanese restaurants but had recently shown signs of tiring of a life on the run. He wrote to Aquino earlier this week pledging not to disrupt the Association of South East Asian Nations' summit meeting next week and had hinted he would surrender if Aquino relaxed her "no terms for traitors" stance.

The capture was a major psychological boost for Aquino after months of tension, security scares and three bombing incidents in the past 24 hours, which officials said were aimed at disrupting the summit and creating an image of Aquino's ineffectiveness and instability.

34-hour general strike brings Argentine commerce to a halt

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) — Argentina's trade unions began a 34-hour general strike on Tuesday to dramatize their demands for sweeping changes in government economic policies. Industry, commerce and transport came to a complete halt yesterday as the strike entered a full day.

It was the tenth nationwide stoppage staged by the general confederation of labour against President Raul Alfonsín's government since he took office four years ago.

"This is a strike in defence of our basic rights, against ... the people's

hunger, economic paralysis, growing unemployment and the rise in speculation," union leader Saul Ubaldini told 15,000 people at a demonstration in San Justo, in heart of the industrial belt outside Buenos Aires. Factory workers walked off the job at 2 p.m. local time though most businesses and government offices were closed all day due to a religious holiday.

Union leaders accuse the government of unfairly burdening workers and the poor for the sake of holding down inflation and paying the country's \$54 billion foreign debt.



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Senate vote on treaty may be close

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders say the necessary two-thirds of the Senate will likely approve the missile treaty signed on Tuesday by President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev. But they also say the voting may be extremely close.

"I have read the treaty," said Senate majority leader Robert Byrd. "Prospects are good for approval." But like many senators, the West Virginia Democrat refuses to say he fully supports the pact.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee plans to start hearings on January 19, and Byrd, who is in charge of Senate scheduling, will not pinpoint a time when the full Senate should vote except to say it will be before summer.

"No one can, or should, try to predict a definite timetable, since the committee process is to some extent an investigation — one which can hold surprises, twists and turns, and in the case of treaties, is ill-suited to mechanistic timetables," he has told the Senate.

Secretary of State Shultz and Defence Secretary Carlucci will be the first witnesses at the committee's hearings.

The treaty, particularly its verification procedures, will be scrutinized by two other Senate committees before it goes to the full Senate — the Armed Services Committee and the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The treaty is also likely to be mixed up in presidential politics amid a field of Republicans and Democrats who want to succeed Reagan in the 1988 election.

All six Democratic candidates, including two who will be voting for the treaty — Sen. Albert Gore of Tennessee and Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois — support the agreement.

Only Vice President George Bush among the six Republicans supports it. The only Republican senator in the field, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole, said he wants to study the agreement and make changes if necessary.

Dole said on Tuesday he has formed a Republican task force to coordinate "expeditious consideration" of the treaty. But he said, "We have some real, legitimate concerns," and added that NATO concerns for its defence must be taken into consideration — an opinion shared by Byrd.

Those expected to raise the most objections to the treaty's approval is a band of far-right Republicans. One knowledgeable Senate leader, Democratic whip Alan Cranston of California, told reporters, "I do not believe that there are one-third plus one members of the Senate who will oppose this treaty."

But he added that concerns about proposals related to verification, about Soviet troops in Afghanistan and about human rights might be raised.

He said the amendments might put conditions on the treaty that neither Reagan nor Gorbachev could accept.

"That is the indirect way this treaty can be killed," he said. "We have to be on guard against all such efforts, and find ways to take legitimate concerns into account without wrecking the treaty." He said failure to approve the pact could "dash the hopes of the people of our country, of the Soviet Union and of the world for real progress towards peace."

On Capitol Hill, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Democrat Sam Nunn, raised the odds for a long-range treaty on strategic nuclear weapons to 55-45, up from the 50-50 chance he gave it before the start of the summit.

Others were less confident, citing disagreements over Reagan's plans for space-based missile defenses and likely confusion over ratifying and verifying the missile pact as obstacles in the way of reducing strategic arsenals.

"I am doubtful that we could get a 'Start' treaty in the near future that dealt adequately with both issues of substance and verification," said arms-

control hardliner Richard Perle, the former assistant secretary of defence.

Although the treaty signed on Tuesday establishes unprecedented verification standards, under which Soviet and U.S. experts for the first time will visit weapons sites and factories, the procedures required for a larger treaty would be many times more complicated. "And they have hardly begun to talk about verification," said Perle.

At the opposite end of the political spectrum is another pessimist, John Steinbruner of the liberal Brookings Institution. "To have a completed treaty by the end of this administration is demanding to the point of unfeasibility," said Steinbruner.

The key issue is whether the Soviets will insist, as they have for two years, that Reagan agree to adhere for a decade to the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty, which they say restricts many tests contemplated for "Star Wars," formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Reagan says he is willing to adhere to the treaty for seven years, but wants to invoke the so-called "broad interpretation" of the ABM pact which would allow more extensive testing of space-based components.

Congress has voted to prevent the Pentagon from spending money on any tests which violate the narrow ABM interpretation, but Gorbachev may not want to rely on U.S. lawmakers to curtail a programme he says threatens world peace.

Not the least of the problems facing the proposed strategic treaty is that the two sides disagree over how to apportion their arsenals among bombers, land-based intercontinental missiles and submarine-launched missiles.

The Kremlin, say U.S. sources, is resisting demands that it ban mobile missiles and cut its stocks of heavy land-based missiles, the weapons the administration says pose the gravest dangers. (Reuter, AP)



U.S. President and Mrs. Reagan greet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife as they arrive at the White House for a state dinner on Tuesday. (Reuter)

Mikhail wore a lounge suit...

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — President Reagan and his wife Nancy, in formal evening attire, hosted a glittering White House state dinner on Tuesday, but their Soviet guests showed up 10 minutes late and Mikhail Gorbachev wore a lounge suit.

Raisa Gorbachev, however, showed no such reluctance to bow to capitalist tradition. She wore an ankle-length black brocade gown with high-heeled black shoes and finished the ensemble with a double strand of pearls and pearl earrings.

Nancy was resplendent in a long black empire-line dress shimmering with beads. She wore large, dangling diamond earrings.

The Gorbachevs drew up 10 minutes after the scheduled 7 p.m. arrival time and half an hour after the rest of the Soviet delegation.

It was not known why the Gorbachevs arrived late, but the dinner came at the end of a busy schedule for the Soviet leader.

All the male Soviet guests kept to the communist norm of lounge suits like their 56-year-old leader's dark blue model. The White House's in-

sistence on making the affair "black tie" caused a minor diplomatic tussle before the summit. Soviet officials said Gorbachev was not likely to change Soviet habits, while Reagan insisted he really did not mind what his guest wore.

In their dinner speeches, both stressed the political divisions between the two countries, but laid out hope of a rosy future.

Gorbachev reminded his listeners of what he said in a 1986 New Year's Eve address on American television, that "our winter of discontent may one day come to an end," and added: "It can be said that the winter is on the wane."

Reagan echoed a similar theme, and ended: "I offer as a toast a commitment on behalf of the American people of seriousness, goodwill and hope for the future."

The Reagans' approximately 100 guests were offered salmon and lobster medallions with caviar sauce, loin of veal with wild mushrooms in champagne sauce and tarragon tomatoes, and a salad of garden greens with blue cheese and crushed

walnuts in a vinegar and avocado dressing.

Among the guests were congressmen and figures from the sports, entertainment, arts and media worlds. They included writer Saul Bellow, industrialist Armand Hammer and Edward Teller, developer of the American hydrogen bomb.

Mstislav Rostropovich, a Soviet emigre who is now director of the Washington National Symphony Orchestra, said he had flown from Germany to attend the dinner.

"We think it's a good thing there's a personal meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan," Rostropovich said.

After dinner, pianist Van Cliburn, who 29 years ago became the first American to win the International Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow, played for about 20 minutes. One of his selections was "Moscow Nights" which the Gorbachevs requested and which they sang as he played.

Gorbachev embraced Cliburn after his performance and kissed him on both cheeks.



Raisa Gorbachev shares a laugh with U.S. pianist Van Cliburn as President and Mrs. Reagan stand by at the White House where Cliburn performed after a state dinner Tuesday. (APF)

(Continued from Page One)

had to prove he had attended yeshiva from his 16th birthday. Students in ordinary high schools who wanted to remain there till their bagrut exams in the 12th grade and then enter yeshivot, with army deferment, could not do so.

The first Likud defence minister, Ezer Weizman, cancelled the requirement of yeshiva study since the age of 16.

Weizman also abolished the official list of recognized yeshivot and permitted deferments to students at all yeshivot recognized by the central Vaad Hayeshivot, which the IDF authorities deal with for deferment purposes. He also permitted deferments to the newly Orthodox who were entering yeshivot for the first time.

All the yeshivot whose students receive exemptions under the *agvis* of the Vaad Hayeshivot are non-Zionist or anti-Zionist, except for the Mercaz Harav Yeshiva, where a small majority of the students eventually do some form of army service.

When Ariel Sharon became defence minister in 1981, he added extra privileges to the ultra-Orthodox sector. He created a new class of permanent exemptions for teachers in that sector's independent school system. He permitted yeshiva students with deferments to travel abroad several times a year instead of being restricted, as they were before, to one single journey. He allowed deferred students aged 30 and

YESHIVA

up to earn money and receive special grants from yeshiva and other funds. This privilege, incidentally, put an additional burden on the taxpayer, since the ultra-Orthodox parties got the Treasury to pay for part of it.

Alignment MK Rabbi Menachem Hacohen heads the seven-man subcommittee that is soon expected to submit recommendations on restricting the deferment privilege. This year the total number of deferments is likely to reach 18,000.

Hacohen does not know what the subcommittee will propose in detail, nor how many of its proposals will be put into effect by the government. But he argues that Israel's position as a world centre for yeshiva study would be maintained more than adequately if 1,000 students are deferred.

The yeshiva students who do full army service in the *hader* yeshivot are just as brilliant as the ultra-Orthodox students, he contends. There is no reason why a student should not do both national service and Torah service, in his view as an Orthodox rabbi.

Hacohen told *The Post*: "One major reason for friction between ultra-Orthodox and secular in this country is the fact that the sons of one out of every 20 families are deferred, which means in most cases totally exempt. The poisoning of the social fabric because of this cannot be un-

derestimated. In countries where theological students customarily got exemption or deferment, the ratio was never as high as 5 per cent. And Israel's security situation has few parallels, if any."

Hacohen contends that yeshiva students have become a privileged elite, living outside the framework of national obligations. Those who start out by feeling hostility to the state intensify their hostility because they have to prove that the faults in the nation and the country are what justify their non-service. They argue: "This is not my army and this not my country," Hacohen says.

"Hostility to the country snowballs, since even those youngsters who attend a yeshiva high school are taught by *haredi* teachers who encourage them to request deferment and continue their scholastic careers in *haredi* yeshivot," Hacohen says.

"We are doing everything possible to let the anti-Zionist ultra-Orthodox educate increasingly large generations of anti-Zionist draft-dodgers at the expense of the taxpayer. Hacohen is especially critical of the National Religious Party for not speaking out clearly against deferment of yeshiva students even though it educates against such deferment. The NRP's Hachibbutz Hachad is the exception, he notes.

"The NRP is scared stiff of being anathematized by the ultra-Orthodox on this issue as on most others," he notes.

(Second article in a series)



Soviet spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov displays a photo of the SS-20 missile included in U.S.-USSR treaty signed on Tuesday. (Reuter)

2,611 missiles to be destroyed

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — Withholding a long section listing sensitive data on the missiles and their sites, the U.S. and the Soviet Union on Tuesday published a landmark treaty scrapping their medium- and shorter-range missiles.

The treaty proper and two protocols on measures for destroying the missiles and inspections to ensure against cheating were released immediately after being signed by President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

The published documents totalled 56 pages, but a 73-page "memorandum of understanding" was withheld as officials discussed how much of it to make public. U.S. negotiator Maynard Glitman told a news conference.

"It's under consideration inside the administration," he said, adding that the document contained figures on the number of missiles, lists of sites where they were deployed and manufactured, and technical data

on the missiles.

The withholding of the document meant that it remained unclear exactly how many of each type of missile the two superpowers had deployed, and how many they held in reserve.

However, Glitman and his Soviet counterpart, Alexei Obukhov, did reveal that a total of 2,611 deployed and non-deployed missiles would be destroyed under the terms of the treaty.

Asked who had called for the memorandum to be kept secret, Glitman said: "It wasn't me."

Obukhov also disclaimed responsibility. "In principle, we are not against publishing this document," he said. "I really had no idea that such a problem existed."

Glitman said the treaty would eliminate weapons that were "decoupling" for the U.S. and its NATO partners, because Soviet medium-range missiles threatened only America's allies.

Gorbachev gives celebrities a guided tour of his policies

By ARTHUR SPIEGELMAN

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — Mikhail Gorbachev did the near impossible on Tuesday night — he brought Henry Kissinger, Yoko Ono, Paul Newman, Billy Graham, Cyrus Vance and Robert DeNiro, among others, together for a seminar on *glasnost*.

About 100 prominent Americans — from show business stars to religious leaders to former U.S. national security advisers and ex-secretaries of state — packed the Soviet Embassy to meet Gorbachev, who gave them a guided tour of his policies.

He said that *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (restructuring) were absolutely essential and appealed for their help in changing Soviet-American relations.

"We began the *perestroika* because it was essential, for we couldn't continue as we had been living before," he said. "We're not living claim to being possessors of truth in the highest degree. We have things to learn from other people." Gorbachev also said that he was fighting for his policies against both conservatives and "adventurers," a reference to ousted Moscow party leader Boris Yeltsin.

Former secretary of state Henry Kissinger and actor John Randolph, best known for playing Jack Nichol-

son's mafia father in the film *Prizzi's Honour*, both emerged from the meeting impressed. "The presentation was much better than the questions," Kissinger said, adding that he was invited at the meeting to visit the Soviet Union.

Randolph, the president of the National Council of Soviet-American Friendship, said Gorbachev was a real leader who spoke clearly and powerfully.

Alan Thomson, the executive director of the council, said Gorbachev seemed to especially impress the men who have spent their lives studying the Soviet Union.

"I asked former ambassador to Moscow George Kennan whether he thought a real change was happening in the Soviet Union, and he said 'yes,'" Thomson said.

Gorbachev, who has had frequent meetings in Moscow with Western intellectuals, also showed he had a sense of humour.

When singer John Denver rose to ask a question, Gorbachev said: "It's nice to see you talking for a change." Among those who attended the meeting were novelist Norman Mailer, former U.S. defence secretary Robert McNamara, astronomer Carl Sagan, former U.S. national security adviser McGeorge Bundy, and economist John Kenneth Galbraith.

Now it's Ron and Mikhail

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — Now it's Ron and Mikhail, at least in private, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed on Tuesday, finally breaking the ice on the first day.

It happened while they were posing for pictures in the White House dining room after they had made television statements on the signing of the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty.

"The president said, 'my first name is Ron.' The general secretary said, 'mine is Mikhail,'" according to a senior White House official.

The president said, "maybe we could call each other by first names in private settings," the official told reporters.

He said Gorbachev replied that it was "fine with him." The official said he did not know whether the two men actually used first names at later private moments together.

At two previous summits in Geneva in 1985 and Iceland last year, the two men used the formal "Mr. President" and "Mr. General Secretary." In Iceland, U.S. officials were careful to point out that informal modes of address were not appropriate.

SEXUAL ASSAULTS

(Continued from Page One)

The course was tried out successfully at the Agnon School and now the aim is to get other schools and even kindergartens to adopt it. "Up to now we have dealt with the problem of sexual attacks after they happened. Now we are attempting to prevent them," said Krieger.

A group of 10- and 11-year-olds at Agnon were involved in the programme, entitled "I have the right to say no." The parents were briefed on the material their children would be presented with.

Then the pupils were asked to discuss situations in which they could be in danger — such as a stranger coming to their home and asking to come in. The children were asked if they had experienced such situations. "Several of them had," said Krieger.

The next step was a talk about what Krieger described as good and bad touches, involving not only strangers but baby-sitters and relatives. The children were told they had the right to refuse advances and, it was stressed, they should not keep such incidents secret. Finally certain types of sexual assault, including rape, were discussed. "We were surprised at how open and verbal the children were," said the counsellor.

U.S. BAN

(Continued from Page One)

in Jerusalem's Old City on the grounds that "this violates American law concerning the use of UJA money."

The Agency's Settlement Department operates only within the Green Line. The reluctance of the Agency to challenge American policy on this matter led to the creation of the WZO Settlement Division, following the Likud's rise to power in 1977. The WZO's settlement work in the territories is funded by the government.

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A growth industry

A WEEK AGO the prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, told an audience of yeshiva students and their teachers that the single most important cause of the rift within Jewry in Israel was the refusal of "a part of the nation" to serve in the armed forces. The draft-dodging "part" Mr. Shamir clearly had in mind, or else he would have made it plain that he had not, consisted of yeshiva students and teachers.

It was a brave statement for a non-religious politician whose entire political strategy is firmly based on alliance with the ultra-Orthodox political parties.

Not unexpectedly, Mr. Shamir's religious allies were sorely offended. What precisely was said at the premier's meetings later with complaining members of the religious Knesset lobby has not been disclosed. But it is reasonable to assume that Mr. Shamir's attention was drawn to one point: yeshiva students are entitled as a matter of law to deferment of their army service for the duration of their study.

Therefore, what the premier had in fact done, even if he had not quite intended doing it, was to highlight what has taken on the dimensions of a national scandal for which his own party, the Likud, with no little help from Labour, is heavily responsible.

The exemption, masked as deferment, of yeshiva students from army service was instituted early on, by David Ben-Gurion, presumably in recognition of the historical role in Judaism of higher Torah study. But in those days exemptions numbered only in the hundreds. Today, exemptions have become a massive affair, comparable to the black economy deriving from tax dodgers.

They have turned yeshivot - with the exception, of course, of those affiliated to the Mizrahi Movement - into virtually lifelong havens from national obligation. And some would argue that exemption from army service has become one of the main causes for the mushrooming of the yeshiva population from a few hundred to somewhere - exact, reliable figures are not available - around 60,000 now. For some of these, anti-Zionist in spirit, draft-dodging is itself a positive mitzva.

These basic facts were known all along, but now, thanks to Mr. Shamir, they have become a fit, indeed obligatory, subject for public debate. By a strange coincidence it has also been revealed that a special subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee has been looking into the issue of exemptions for some time now.

The subcommittee has already discovered that the present corrupt practice of granting mass exemptions was started by Ezer Weizman as Menachem Begin's first defence minister in 1977, and was solidified by Ariel Sharon in 1981. By this practice, boys reaching the age of 17 do not even have to report to the army recruitment offices. This also deprives the army of precise statistics on the dimensions of the exemption phenomenon.

Yet whatever the committee finds and recommends, there is little chance that this inequity will be repaired, certainly not in an election year. Mr. Shamir has already backtracked. He didn't mean what he said. And Mr. Peres, not to be outdone in courting Shas and Agudat Yisrael, has also enshrined draft dodging as part of the status quo. Even the National Religious Party, representing a Zionist movement whose youth have always served, has for some reason come to the defence of those who do not.

But at least we know who calls the shots.

EMIGRATION

(Continued from Page One)
quences in our nation that will tremendously improve our relationship in every sphere of those relationships.

But Cranston and other lawmakers who attended the meeting at the Soviet Embassy said the Soviet leader did not directly respond to their statements. Gorbachev, on the defensive, simply noted that the U.S. was being inconsistent in pressing the Soviet Jewry issue. He asked why the U.S. was so determined to prevent Mexicans from immigrating to America.

He then added: "Examine your own record. You won't let every body into your country who leaves some other country, or wishes to... You seem to accept everyone who wishes to leave the Soviet Union. You do not accept everyone who wishes to leave Mexico for your country."

Gorbachev proposed a joint

"seminar" between Congress and the Supreme Soviet to discuss the human rights issue. "Take a look at your own record on human rights while you criticize ours, and let's have that seminar and try to reach greater understanding and make some progress in both countries."

Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway said Reagan had told Gorbachev that the Kremlin's human rights policies will have a significant impact on the American public's attitude towards the Soviet Union. "He always puts it up front," she said. "He did at Geneva, he did at Reykjavik, and he did yesterday."

Several of the senators who met the Soviet leader said they told him an improved Soviet human rights performance, including a withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, would help ensure ratification of the just-signed arms agreement.

AFGHAN

(Continued from Page One)
gala at which Gorbachev and his wife Raisa joined a crowd singing "Moscow Nights" with pianist Van Cliburn.

On the issue of treaty ratification, Gorbachev subjected his congressional visitors to some turn-about by saying that he, too, might face problems with his own legislature.

"We feel that we have to work hard with our public opinion and with the Supreme Soviet," he said,

according to a transcript of his opening remarks.

"Perhaps for the first time in history, the process of ratification in our own country will not go as easily as it has in the past," he added.

Gorbachev and Reagan have proclaimed INF only a first step towards a much more sweeping nuclear disarmament agreement cutting in half superpower stocks of long-range, strategic weapons. (AP, Reuters)

PORUSH

(Continued from Page 2)
years in office Labour had pioneered, maintained and tacitly extended the system of deferments for men and exemptions for Orthodox women.

Aguda would stop at nothing in its resolution to see that there was no erosion of the system. Porush warned.

As he made his way back to his seat, the 72-year-old MK was congratulated by political rival Yitzhak Peretz, Shas's minister-without-portfolio, who warmly shook his hand.

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THIS WEEK'S World Zionist Congress and last week's meeting of the World Sephardi Federation - neither of them events of world shattering importance on the internal Israeli scene - may nevertheless have been significant portents of the direction Israeli politics may take in the near future, and possibly even in the current election year.

At the World Zionist Congress, the Labour Party learned that it could cement an effective coalition, and disregard the opposition of the religious Zionists. In order to elect one of its own as chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and distribute executive portfolios to its allies, including the important department of education in the Diaspora.

At the World Sephardi Federation meeting, its leaders came out against religious extremism of the Shas variety, a position which neither Likud Prime Minister Shamir nor Labour Party leader Peres has yet dared espouse publicly.

The federation could permit itself to lambast Shas-style religious extremism because that Carpathian-style Jewish fundamentalism, which has succeeded in "converting" some former residents of the Atlas Mountains in Israel, remains basically foreign to the mainline Sephardi ethos of easy-going respect for a religion that is not strictly practised, coupled with a tolerance for pluralism among those who do practise it.

At the Congress, where the religious Zionists commanded a larger proportion of the seats than all the religious parties put together do in the Knesset, Labour could allow itself to ignore their opposition, simply because it had the votes to do so.

In addition, the total votes of the Confederation, Reform and Conservatives and the parties of the left, which have been all deeply alienated by the Orthodox excesses of recent years, far exceeded those of the religious. It should also not be overlooked that at the Congress, the reli-

Secular counter-attack

gious gravitated to the Likud rather than to Labour as a "natural" ally.

Yosef Goell

ALL OF THESE developments cannot but have implications for Israel's domestic politics, too.

Up to 1977, Labour always made a point of forming coalitions with the mainline Orthodox National Religious Party, but of keeping the anti-Zionist, fundamentalist Aguda out. Had the Likud won enough votes in 1977 and 1981 to form coalitions without the Aguda, they might have continued the tradition, although it is hard to be sure about Menachem Begin's preferences in that regard.

The fact is, however, that the two major political blocs have been pretty much balanced over the past 10 years, and in that situation of near or total political deadlock, the religious parties could play the Likud and Labour off against each other, despite the fact that their seats in the Knesset have dwindled from a high of 17 to the present 12.

A good part of the secular backlash to big-party pandering to the Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox minorities has finally emerged after a decade in which the Orthodox tail revelled in wagging the dog of the large secular parties.

There has been a four-decade unwritten understanding in Israel politics that one does not make coalitions with the Rakah communists, and latterly with the Progressive List for Peace. Arab parties that have been competing for the PLO vote. Were it not for this convention, Peres could have formed his own government in 1985.

IDEALLY, LABOUR and the Likud should have been capable of getting together to blackball Agudat Yisrael and Shas in a similar man-

ner, instead of pandering to them.

A good part of the bad atmosphere that informs the current confrontation over religious-secular issues, which were handled not too badly in previous decades, is a result of the basic inability of the fundamentalists of Aguda and Shas to compromise with secular Zionist interests, just as convinced secular Zionists find it difficult to compromise with them. The gap between those two parts of the population is simply too wide to be bridged.

When one makes this point, the Orthodox usually wheel out the hoary argument that not giving in to their every demand "threatens Jewish unity," followed by the claim that whereas it is no skin off the nose of hedonistic seculars "who have no morals" to go along with Orthodox demands, the Orthodox themselves cannot reasonably be expected to compromise on their profound beliefs and practices.

This is an extreme case of the mouse that roared logic.

Although they may not have noticed, the Jewish people have undergone an extreme process of secularization over the past century and a half. From a people that was almost entirely observant it has turned into a people that is 90 per cent or more non-observant - certainly within the meaning of the term observant as interpreted by the Israeli Orthodox establishment.

In Israel itself, observant Jews constitute only about 15 per cent of the total. If anything has been threatening Jewish unity of late it is the demand that the vast non-observant majority give in, on an ever-growing list of issues, to the de-

mands of the small observant minority.

The most egregious recent case was the falling into line of the entire Orthodox polity behind the Lubavitcher Rebbe's insistence on repeated, though futile, attempts to amend the Law of Return so as to withdraw recognition from non-Orthodox conversions.

I USED TO wonder how totally secular Likud leaders could look themselves in the eye when they gave in to the Aguda on matters that were close to their Zionist hearts, such as its demand to permit draft-age girls to lie with impunity to draft boards about their spurious religiosity.

I see that Prime Minister Shamir last week apparently reached the end of his tether and could no longer contain himself in the face of the growing scandal of draft-dodging by scores of thousands of *haredi* yeshiva students, although his criticism may prove to have been no more than a slip of the tongue.

But I have long ago written off the Likud on this score, for I understand totally unbridled cynicism. I could not contain myself, for example, when I read of Gideon Patz's disingenuous pitch to the World Zionist Congress, when he explained that although the Likud had consistently voted with the religious parties on the Who is a Jew amendment, it had in fact not delivered that amendment because it permitted several of its MKs to vote no, or to abstain.

I find such unbridled gall, as an accompaniment to unbridled cynicism, somewhat entertaining.

THE REAL TARGET for all those who care about religious freedom for Jews in Israel, and for a renewal of secular Zionist self-respect, how-

ever, must be Labour's Shimon Peres. The Labour leader's political strategy for the past 10 years has been based on an all-out determination to woo the religious parties, on the assumption that Labour could never regain power without their coalition support. For 10 long years he has tried his hand at our Begin and watching Shamir, but to no avail.

The religious parties have succeeded in playing him and Labour, rather than permitting Labour to play them. And in the crunch, they have on countless occasions indicated their preference for the totally unprincipled Likud over a Labour which still has to take into account members and potential supporters who cannot stomach the idea of a total sell-out to the religious fundamentalists.

The experience of the past few years, however, has shown that contrary to the moanings of media Cassandras, when secular Israelis choose to stand up and fight for their rights, the Orthodox back down. There is a long list of such victories.

It is time Shimon Peres, too, learned that lesson. If he cannot bring himself to join the fight for the forging of a new *modus vivendi* between secular and Zionist Orthodox Israelis, while relegating the anti-Zionist fundamentalists to the sidelines of Israeli society and politics, where they belong, he should step aside. For he stands a good chance of losing the election for his party for the fourth time in a row if he is not prepared to reconsider his strategy in relation to the religious parties.

Rational political parties usually do not retain leaders who insist on losing elections because of calculations that time and again, have proven wrong.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

What makes Awad run?

Joe Franklin

card upon demand, filling the prison system beyond bursting point with Palestinian passive resisters.

In short, his programme, if followed, would dramatically increase the ungovernability of the Palestinian population and capture the moral high ground in the international media. However, Awad's suggestions have proved far more attractive to left-wing Israelis than to Palestinian day-labourers. He has had limited success on the issues of land defence and family reunification.

AWAD'S CONFRONTATION with the Israeli government was inevitable, and it is telling that the confrontation centres on his personal status rather than the programme he advocates. Perhaps sadly, it reveals his inability thus far to effectively challenge the occupation itself. Now it is bureaucrats from the Ministry of Interior, not officers of the military administration, with whom he has joined battle.

The legal machinery that has moved to the point of a deportation order has slipped into a political ditch: Awad's U.S. citizenship and a spirited defence on his behalf by the American Consulate.

"We've gone as far as we ever have on this one," said Consul Morris Draper to a delegation of American immigrants, referring to the consulate's representations to the Israeli government. The consulate views the case as an instance of discriminatory practice that it is legally and politically obliged to oppose.

A PALESTINIAN analysis would regard this discrimination as but one of the many aspects of "the racism inherent in Zionism." It is not. Rather, it is a feature of the dominant/subordinate relationship that has been established in order to make the occupation workable. Jewish free expression is sacred; a Palestinian *cri de coeur* is subversion.

The practical consequences of discriminatory treatment are being made clear to the Israeli government, sensitive as ever to its American image. Aside from daily media coverage, the question was raised with Prime Minister Shamir (also acting interior minister) by U.S. officials during his recent visit.

Foreign Ministry staff, aware of the price that may be paid in terms of good consular and public relations, are alleged to be less than anxious to expel Awad, while the Interior Ministry appears to be talking a harder line.

It is ironic to consider that Awad in exile, with his heartfelt style and charming looks, would surely be far more effective before foreign audiences than he is in galvanizing local Palestinians. A subtler decision might have restrained the government from contradicting itself by popularizing a new hero. Awad's

current media visibility results from bull-headed bureaucratic blundering more than from his own concrete achievements.

What Awad does not represent is perhaps his true offence: he does not represent an attitude of adjustment and submission. The enunciation of political and social demands is considered a "security threat." Successive governments have sought a political myth - a representative local Palestinian leadership ready to capitulate.

American history even provides a model: "The wisest of my race understand that the agitation for social equality is the extreme folly," said Booker Washington at Tuskegee Institute just over a century ago.

Maybe we should ask why the past 20 years of Palestinian history haven't thrown up any viable Uncle Mohammeds, and then ask in what direction fresh discussion is likely to lie?

WHAT ELSE makes this man Mubarak Awad so special?

The existence of an advocate of Palestinian non-violence marks a new form of political sophistication. Edward Said once wrote that it was part of the tragic fate of the Palestinian people to oppose a people with the moral history and depth of Jews. Mubarak Awad, who is a product of an international Palestinian intellectual awakening, seeks to confront the Jewish state on precisely this moral terrain.

Just as early Zionism profited from the then-contemporary inspiration of socialism, so Awad is now mining present sources of moralism - Gandhi, King and others - for similar Palestinian profit. In his own fashion, he seems to be searching for the same sense of tempered control and political timing that once characterized the Yishuv's defence doctrine of *havlaga* (self-restraint).

Awad has displayed a canny ability to identify and highlight moral parallels between Jewish causes and Palestinian ones. The family-reuni-

fication campaign sponsored by the Centre for the Study of Non-Violence relied on a comparison between Soviet Jewish and Palestinian families, both split by an unreasonable refusal of state authority to permit population movement.

Arab family members protesting in front of the Prime Minister's Office where Soviet Jewish family members had demonstrated only a few days earlier carried a direct and effective public message of moral equivalence.

AWAD LABOURS under no illusions, however, about the general acceptance of non-violent strategy within the Palestinian body politic, where it is seen as at most a clever tactic.

"Palestinians are desperate," he said at a recent East Jerusalem meeting. "They'll use whatever you give them. If you give them an atom bomb they'll use it; if you give them non-violent resistance, they'll use it."

He takes the metaphor uttered by Arafat at the UN - "I am holding a gun and an olive branch" - and compares himself to the olive branch of the Palestinian national movement.

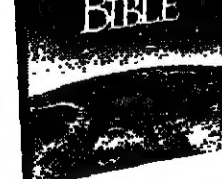
For Awad to associate himself in the same breath with the PLO, which explicitly endorses armed struggle, and the Gandhian concept of *satyagraha* that rejects violence as a betrayal of the human soul, denotes an interesting imagination.

Such statements can be viewed as contradictory - even muddled - or as eminently human dualism. Whatever our judgment, they indicate a novel concern for the peaceful resolution of conflict. Israelis and Palestinians remain locked in an impasse over a question of historical justice, one that cannot be made to disappear would represent a refusal to recognize the moral argument between the two sides.

Mubarak Awad belongs in Jerusalem, a city that is his birthright. There are too few pacifists in the Middle East to exile them from where they are needed most.

The writer is on the staff of a social research institute in Jerusalem.

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